

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-12 and 14-18 are currently pending; Claims 17 and 18 were added; and Claims 1, 7-12, and 14 are amended by the present amendment. The changes and additions to the claims do not add new matter and are supported by the originally filed specification, for example, on page 9, lines 1-2; page 10, lines 1-5; and page 11, lines 5-11.

In the outstanding Final Office Action, Claim 14 was objected to; Claims 1 and 6-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hayakawa et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0154187, hereafter “Hayakawa”) in view of Hu et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0143727, hereafter “Hu”) and Srinivasan et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,587,856, hereafter “Srinivasan”); Claims 2 and 3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hayakawa in view of Hu, Srinivasan, and Anderson (U.S. Patent No. 6,298,401); Claims 4 and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hayakawa in view of Hu, Srinivasan, and Gautam et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,956,704, hereafter “Gautam”); Claims 13 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hayakawa in view of Hu, Srinivasan, and further in view of Debique et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0184180, hereafter “Debique”); and Claims 15 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hayakawa in view of Hu, Srinivasan, and Ekkel (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/008857).

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for conducting an interview with Applicants’ Representative, Monica Ullagaddi, on August 30, 2011. During the interview, Applicants’ Representative explained Applicants’ invention to the Examiner, while referring to FIGS. 1, 8, 14, and 15. The applied references were also discussed. Claim amendments,

similar to those presented herein, were also discussed. The Examiner indicated that he would consider the arguments when presented in a response to the outstanding office action.

With regard to the objection Claim 14, Applicants have amended Claim 14 to depend from independent Claim 12. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that this ground of objection is overcome.

With respect to the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), Applicants respectfully submit that the clarifying amendments presented herein overcome this ground of rejection. Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*,

displaying information corresponding to the modified number of columns, received from the update-information providing apparatus, that is related to the content data, the content data being audio content that is ***broadcast to*** and reproducible at the communication terminal, and the columns in the table format of the database schema corresponding to information about the audio content.

Turning now to the references, the Examiner asserts paragraphs [0065], [0113], and [0114] and FIG. 4 of Hayakawa of disclosing the above-noted features of Applicants' Claim 1. In the *Response to Arguments* section of the outstanding Final Office Action, the Examiner asserts that "Hayakawa discloses updating a schema with new columns of ID information...[and]...[t]he number of columns is seen as the information that corresponds to the ID number." The Examiner further asserts that "[t]he data corresponds to application data that is able to be accessed on a PDA device, where the application data such as a voicemail is seen as audio data." In this regard, the cited portions of Hayakawa are submitted to disclose a user-editable and executable schedule application stored in the memory of a handheld information terminal 200. Further, Hayakawa illustrates, in FIG. 4, a terminal database 200a that includes columns for an ID number, item, edit flag, regular event

flag and missing flag. At most, Hayakawa discloses that, in a data update process, when editing of items is performed in PC 300 after completion of a previous update, item IDs of items that have been added, changed, or deleted in PC 300 are detected to have been transmitted to handheld information terminal 200.

Hayakawa does not describe, suggest, or even mention that the schedule application is or includes a voicemail, as asserted by the Examiner. Even assuming, *arguendo*, that Hayakawa disclosed updating voicemail data on a PDA device, and Applicants submit that Hayakawa describes no such feature, Applicants respectfully submit that Hayakawa fails to disclose or render obvious “displaying information corresponding to the modified number of columns...that is related to the content data, the content data being audio content that is ***broadcast to and*** reproducible at the communication terminal, and the ***columns in the table format of the database schema corresponding to information about the audio content,***” as recited in Claim 1.

In the body of the outstanding Final Office Action, the Examiner also cites column 6, lines 26-30 and column 13, 45-65 of Srinivasan as teaching the above-noted features of Applicants’ independent Claim 1. In this regard, Srinivasan describes adding, modifying, and maintaining metadata in a system. Specifically, Srinivasan describes modifying an existing attribute type by editing a subschema entry; determining whether an attribute name/identifier is being modified and if so, selecting a new unique name/identifier for the attribute; modifying other attribute parameters (*e.g.*, changing from single-valued and multi-valued attribute types); and saving or committing modifications to a subschema entry in an “attribute_store” table. As previously set forth, Srinivasan describes representing objects in a relational database in which new rows, but not new columns, may be inserted into a table. *See, e.g.*, column 6, lines 37-39 of Srinivasan. Applicants respectfully submit that Srinivasan does not describe that the plurality of content data remains stored in a

consistent state in the database, while the subschema entry is being edited. Even assuming, *arguendo*, that Srinivasan were properly considered as disclosing that “updating the database schema includes at least modifying a number of columns in the table format of the database schema while the plurality of content data remains stored in a consistent state in the database,” and Applicants submit that it is not, Applicants respectfully submit that Srinivasan fails to disclose at least the above-noted amended features of Applicants’ independent Claim 1.

In view of the above, none of Hayakawa, Hu, and Srinivasan disclose or render obvious “displaying information corresponding to the modified number of columns, received from the update-information providing apparatus, that is related to the content data, the content data being audio content that is broadcast to and reproducible at the communication terminal, and the columns in the table format of the database schema corresponding to information about the audio content,” as recited in amended Claim 1.

Therefore, Applicants submit that Claim 1 (and all associated dependent claims) patentably distinguishes over Hayakawa, Hu, and Srinivasan, either alone or in proper combination.

Anderson, Debique, Ekkel, and Gautam have been considered but fail to remedy the deficiencies of Hayakawa, Hu, and Srinivasan with regard to Claim 1. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 1 (and all associated dependent claims) patentably distinguishes over Hayakawa, Hu, Srinivasan, Anderson, Debique, Ekkel, and Gautam, either alone or in proper combination.

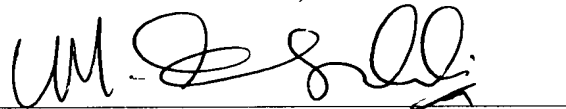
Independent Claims 7-12 recite features similar to those of Claim 1 discussed above. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 7-12 patentably distinguish over Hayakawa, Hu, Srinivasan, Anderson, Debique, Gautam, and Ekkel, either alone or in proper combination.

The present amendment also sets forth new Claims 17 and 18 for examination on the merits. No new matter has been added. It is respectfully submitted that these more detailed features are not disclosed or rendered obvious by Hayakawa, Hu, Srinivasan, Anderson, Debique, Gautam, and Ekkel, either alone or in any proper combination. Applicants respectfully request an indication of allowance with respect to Claims 17 and 18 at least for depending from Claim 1, which Applicants submit has been shown to be allowable.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the outstanding grounds for rejection are believed to have been overcome. The present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested. Furthermore, the examiner is kindly invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the phone number below to resolve any outstanding issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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